



Priorities for Clean-Up and Repair

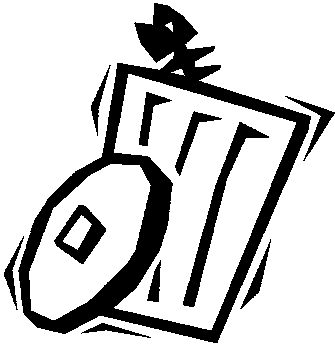


Priorities will vary with kind and seriousness of damage. Buildings may not be habitable during repair.

- Examine building structure.
 - Check foundations for settling, cracking or undermining.
 - Examine walls, floors, doors and windows to determine what repairs are necessary.
 - You may want to repair only temporarily until extensive work can be done.
- If basement is flooded, start pumping the water in stages. Pump about a third of the water each day.
- Get electrical system in operation.
 - If switchbox is in a flooded basement, do not turn electricity back on until water has been pumped out.
 - Take electrical appliances to a qualified service repair center as soon as possible.
- Get water system working. Disinfect wells and water system.
- Shovel out mud and silt before it dries.
- Before they dry, wash down flooded walls and floors with hose. Start at upper limit of flooding and work downward.
- Scrub and disinfect walls and floors.
- Start heating system, if possible, to speed up drying.
 - Before operating it, heating system may need to be cleaned, dried and reconditioned.
 - Make sure chimneys are clean before starting system.
- Dry out walls and floors.
 - If required for proper drying, strip drywall up to water level.
 - Drill holes in exterior siding.
 - Complete drying may take months.
- Repair buckled walls and floors.

This document is IFAS publication DH 507.

Adapted by UF/IFAS from:
Document DH-054,
IFAS Disaster Handbook for
Extension Agents (developed
by the Cooperative Extension
Service for the benefit of
Florida's citizens)



- Clean and dry household items, furniture, carpets, clothing, dishes and bedding. Disinfect when necessary.
- Treat items for mildew as needed.
- Care for damaged trees, shrubs and lawn.
- Repaint, repair and refinish as necessary.

Supplies and Equipment for Home Clean-Up

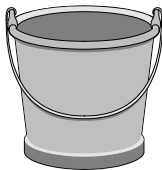
Cleaning Supplies

- Low sudsing detergents
- Bleaches
- Disinfectants
- Ammonia
- Scouring powder
- Rubber gloves
- Strong boots or heavy-soled shoes



Equipment for Small Jobs

- Buckets
- Tools (crowbar, hammer, screwdriver)
- Sponges and cloths
- Scrub brushes
- Scoops
- Throw-away containers for garbage, and container to carry from house to street
- Water hose



Equipment for Large Jobs

- Buckets
- Tools
- Brooms
- Shovels
- Hoes
- Sponge mop or mop that is easily squeezed out
- Water hose
- Wheelbarrow
- Dolly
- Bushel baskets
- Wash tubs (for soaking objects)